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**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Lal et al.

Examiner:

Vandervegt,

François P.

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Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By: Kathein M Kowalchy

## **AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 12, 2004, the date for reply extended to June 12, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

An Appendix including Exhibits A and B is attached following page 13 of this paper.